



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7355

LCO No. 5116

05116_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The Early Childhood Education
2 Cabinet, established pursuant to section 10-16s of the general statutes,
3 shall study the feasibility of expanding preschool availability to all
4 four-year olds in this state. The cabinet shall study the provision of
5 preschool to all four year olds living (1) in priority school districts
6 pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes, (2) in school
7 districts that have a priority school, as defined in section 10-16p of the
8 general statutes, and (3) in all remaining school districts. The cabinet
9 shall assess the feasibility of the provision of such preschool for each of
10 the categories of school districts in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of
11 this subsection, individually. In determining the feasibility of
12 providing preschool for all four year olds living in the school districts
13 described in said subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, the cabinet shall
14 consider: (A) Costs of providing for such preschool, including the
15 operating and capital costs, (B) additional space and facility
16 requirements, (C) number of eligible students, (D) number of
17 additional teachers required and training and qualifications, (E)

18 possible funding, including grants or bonding by the state and fees
19 paid by parents based on a sliding scale, and (F) program standards.
20 The cabinet shall also consider ways to maximize the use of private
21 providers of early childhood education that meet the standards
22 established by the Department of Education, in accordance with the
23 provisions of section 10-16p of the general statutes.

24 (b) Not later than January 1, 2008, the Early Childhood Education
25 Cabinet shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
26 general statutes, report its findings pursuant to subsection (a) of this
27 section to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
28 having cognizance of matters relating to education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To require a study of the feasibility of expanding preschool availability to four year olds.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]